

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 20 of page 9 with the following paragraph:

This result is surprising, since it was not possible to assume the properties, such as, for example, flowability or mechanical stability, of the pharmaceutical and cosmetic formulations are influenced by tamped density of the pyrogenic silicon dioxide used. According the article "Kolloidale Kieselsäure als Gelbildner [Colloidal silica as a gel-forming agent]" (www.pharmazeutische-zeitung.de/pza/2001-51/pharm-5.htm) it was even to be expected that that compacted highly disperse silicas have disadvantages compared with the non-compacted product types. Problems are described here with Aerosil® 200V (tamped density 120 g/l), since it does not achieve the required thickening performance compared with standard products Aerosil® 200 (tamped density 50 g/l). It is furthermore surprising that the release of active compounds and the disintegration time of the pharmaceutical and cosmetic formulations is influenced by the tamped density of the hydrophobic silicon dioxide used.